

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 298103
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TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 298103

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (KENNEDY, EDWARD) US, CH, HK

SUBJECT: CODEL KENNEDY

REF: STATE 297076

1. KALICKI HAS VERIFIED SENATOR'S WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH US PRESS REPRESENTATIVES ON JANUARY 9 FLIGHT FROM HONG KONG TO OSAKA. FLIGHT TIME IS THREE HOURS AND SENATOR WOULD ANTICIPATE DIVIDING ABOUT TWO HOURS INTO INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS WITH THOSE AMERICAN PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WHO ACCOMPANY HIM. KALICKI INDICATED THAT 'FIRST REFUSAL, PRIVILEGE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO NY TIMES, WASHINGTON POST, UPI, AP, NEWSWEEK, TIME, AND BOB SHAPLEN. HE REALIZES THAT IF ALL SEVEN OF THESE AGREE, EACH WOULD HAVE ONLY 15-20 MINUTES WITH SENATOR ON PLANE. SENATOR, HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE OP,ORTUNITY FOR IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW IN ADDITION TO OPEN PRESS CONFERENCE. SENATOR'S OFFICE IS ALREADY IN CONTACT WITH UPI IN WASHINGTON AND WISHES TO HANDLE UPI HERE RATHER THAN IN HONG KONG.

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2. UNLESS CONGEN PERCEIVES OBJECTION, WE BELIEVE PRESS OFFICER SHOULD CONTACT THE SIX US PRESS REPRESENTATIVES LISTED PARA ONE (MINUS UPI) AND INFORM THEM OF SENATOR

KENNEDY'S PROPOSALS. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT SINCE OTHERS ARE ALSO BEING GIVEN SAME OPPORTUNITY, INDIVIDUAL

INTERVIEWS MIGHT BE AS SHORT AS 15 MINUTES. THOSE INTERESTED SHOULD MAKE THEIR OWN RESERVATIONS AND PURCHASE TICKETS (CONTRARY TO REFTTEL, SENATOR'S OFFICE DID NOT MAKE ADDITIONAL RESERVATIONS FOR THIS PURPOSE.) PLEASE REPORT PROMPTLY REPORTER'S RESPONSE TO SENATOR'S PROPOSALS. IF MOST OF THOSE INVITED ARE NOT INTERESTED, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONGEN'S SUGGESTIONS REGARDING OTHER US PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WHO MIGHT BE.

3. ON DIFFERENT SUBJECT, MRS. SHRIVER HAS BEEN GIVEN THE NAME OF S. W. IP OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN AT 2A DARBY ROAD, KOWLOON, TELEPHONE 528-1817 OR 528-3793. AT MINIMUM, SHE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR SHORT MEETING WITH MR. IP. SHE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE BRIEF CABLE DESCRIPTION OF BOTH THIS ASSOCIATION AND THE JFK CENTER FOR SPASTIC CHILDREN PRIOR TO HER ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG.

CHRISTOPHER

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